

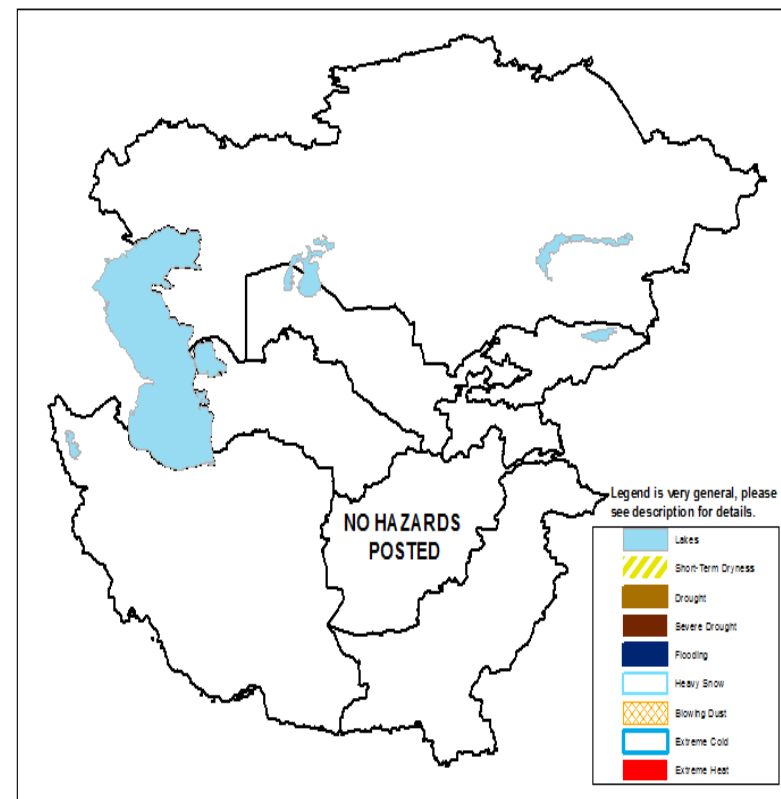
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook For USAID / FEWS-NET March 6 – March 12, 2013

Temperatures:

From February 21 – 28, 2013, temperatures were close to normal across Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan and the lowlands of Afghanistan, while positive anomalies ranged between 2 to 4 degrees Celsius across Turkmenistan and northern Uzbekistan. Meanwhile, below-average temperatures (2 to 4 degrees Celsius) were observed across the central highlands and northwest mountains of Afghanistan. For the next week, above-average temperatures are forecast to continue across south Central Asia except across higher elevations in central and northeastern Afghanistan, northern Pakistan and western Tajikistan, where below-average temperatures are forecast. Minimum temperatures are likely to fall below -20 degrees Celsius over these regions, coldest across higher terrain.

Precipitation

During the past week, a strong storm brought moderate to heavy precipitation across Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Pakistan. Although, this has helped to partially reduce precipitation deficits over the dry portions of south Central Asia, snow water volume has remained below-average across basins of central and northern Afghanistan and Tajikistan. During the next week, another mid-latitude cyclone and cold front is forecast to impact the region with a mixture of rain and snow. Snows are likely across higher elevations in central Tajikistan, northeastern Afghanistan and northern Pakistan, where temperatures should be below-freezing, while rains are likely across lower elevations in northern Afghanistan, southern Turkmenistan, and southern Uzbekistan.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

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